



## **Communicable Disease Branch Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Weekly Key Points**

**March 2, 2021**

The North Carolina Division of Public Health (NC DPH) Communicable Disease Branch will be releasing COVID-19 weekly key points that includes information discussed on the weekly Tuesday Local Health Department call. Recordings of the call will not be made available; please use the information below as a summary of the topics presented on the call. As guidance changes, please use the most recent information provided. For questions, contact the NC DPH Communicable Disease Branch 24/7 Epidemiologist on Call at **919-733-3419**.

### **Important Updates**

- **New:** NCDHHS\_LHD Weekly Webinar\_03.02.2021.pdf (file attached)
- **New:** NC COVID Report Guidance\_02182021.pdf (file attached)
- **New:** Reporting COVID-19 cases no followup to State\_2-2021\_short.pdf (file attached)
- **New:** NC COVID Standard Archiving Dataset\_02252021.pdf (file attached)
- **Updated:** Local Health Vaccine FAQ - 2.26.21.pdf (file attached)
- **Updated:** Find My Testing Place (file attached)

### **National/State Epi Picture**

The case definition for vaccine breakthrough cases remains the same for individuals vaccinated with the Janssen vaccine as with Moderna and Pfizer: Positive test at least 14 days past completion of vaccination (1 dose for Janssen and 2 doses for Moderna and Pfizer) without a previous positive test in the preceding 45 days.

### **NC COVID Archiving**

NC COVID began the archiving of negative COVID-19 events during weekend of February 27 and is ongoing; archiving will occur weekly going forward. Archiving negative events will help to address several performance and processing issues within the NC COVID platform. Please see the attached document titled *NC COVID Report Guidance\_02182021.pdf* for further instructions.

Additionally, a list of variables the Epi Data Team plans to include in a standard dataset available to LHDs to help prepare for archiving will be attached in the accompanying documents to the weekly key points titled: *NC COVID Standard Archiving Dataset\_02252021.pdf*

### **Contact Tracing: Softphone and CCTO Update**

- As case numbers are falling, we are now releasing [revised guidance](#) that gives prioritized recommendations for the full population.



- This guidance supports LHDs that can in reaching all patients and provides a very simple priority order for those that are not reaching all patients but want to go further than cluster investigations.
- Note that the top priority groups are for people whose specimen date is <4 days from the report to public health.
- Note that some people don't get our digital notification; people with a failed or undelivered notification should be prioritized for a phone call. Instructions for finding these people are in CCTO Job Aid for [verifying digital notification](#).
- We will also be issuing revised contact tracing guidance in the coming weeks.
- Additional resources: [All CCTO Job Aids](#) The guidance is listed under contact tracing on the CD Manual [Coronavirus page](#)

## **Find My Testing Place**

Please review the updated 'Find My Testing Place LHD' Excel file weekly to ensure information is up to date and accurate. Please send the updated files or any related questions to [SVC\\_Covid-19TestingSites@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:SVC_Covid-19TestingSites@dhhs.nc.gov)